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Cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit

Letter dated 9 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit to you, with the consent of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the text of the resolutions adopted at the 105th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, held in Havana from 1 to 7 April 2001.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 26 and 182, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bruno **Rodríguez Parrilla**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 10 May 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

105th CONFERENCE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

The 105th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union* was held in Havana (Cuba) from 1 to 7 April 2001, at the invitation of the Cuban Parliament. The Conference brought together 663 members of Parliament from 123 countries and the representatives of 25 observer delegations.

In the course of its proceedings, the Conference adopted the attached resolutions.

*** The Inter-Parliamentary Union's membership was as follows as at 7 April 2001:**

Members (141)

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Associate Members (5)

Andean Parliament, Central American Parliament, European Parliament, Latin American Parliament, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO MEET THE EMERGENCY SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN, COMPOUNDED BY THE RECENT DESTRUCTION OF CULTURAL HERITAGE BY THE TALIBAN

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 105th Conference (Havana, 6 April 2001)

The 105th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Recalling its resolutions "Promoting greater respect and protection of human rights in general and in particular for women and children" adopted at its 96th Conference, "The prevention of conflicts and the restoration of peace and trust in countries emerging from war, the return of refugees to their countries of origin, the strengthening of democratic processes and the hastening of reconstruction" adopted at its 99th Conference, and "Action to combat the consumption and illicit trafficking of drugs and organised crime" adopted at its 100th Conference,

Recalling also the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, especially Nos. 1267 (1999) and 1333 (2000), United Nations General Assembly resolution A/55/243 of 9 March 2001, and the statements by the President of the Security Council on the situation in Afghanistan,

Calling attention to the relevant international conventions on combating terrorism, and especially the obligation of signatory States to hand over terrorists or prosecute them under criminal law,

Recalling the human rights principles to which the international community is committed, which are established in various United Nations declarations, conventions and covenants on political, civil, economic, social and cultural rights and have been repeatedly reaffirmed by the Union,

Recalling in particular that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted in 1993 emphasise, *inter alia*, that the human rights of women and children are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Appalled by the persistent violations of human rights in those parts of Afghanistan which are controlled by the movement known as the Taliban, especially the flagrant violation of the most basic rights of men, women and children,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, adopted in The Hague on 14 May 1954,

Condemning the Taliban's decision to destroy Afghanistan's pre-Islamic and Buddhist cultural heritage and their implementation of that decision despite all the appeals by the international community and, indeed, the efforts of spiritual leaders from the Islamic world,

Also condemning the fact that the areas of Afghanistan controlled by the Taliban continue to be used as safe havens for terrorists and for training, planning and organisation of terrorist activities,

Deeply concerned at the fact that the territory under the control of the Taliban has emerged as one of the largest drug-producing areas of the world,

1. *Calls on* the Taliban to comply immediately with United Nations Security Council resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1333 (2000);

2. *Urges* all States to ensure strict compliance with all the measures imposed in resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1333 (2000);

3. *Exhorts* the Taliban to respect human rights, in accordance with the relevant international declarations, conventions and covenants;

4. *Urges* the Taliban, in particular, to end the grave violations of the human rights of women and girls, and especially all forms of discrimination against them;

5. *Calls on* the Taliban, in particular, to guarantee that women and girls have unrestricted and equal access to health care, education and employment outside the home;

6. *Strongly urges* the Taliban to lay down their weapons and initiate negotiations with the Afghan Government, immediately and without conditions, under the auspices of the United Nations, with the objective of forming a multi-ethnic, democratic and representative government;

7. *Demands* that the Taliban reverse their decision to destroy Afghanistan's pre-Islamic and Buddhist cultural heritage, and cease the destruction immediately;

8. *Enjoins* the Taliban to close all terrorist training camps in the areas under their control, to surrender wanted terrorists to countries where they could be tried and to stop granting sanctuary to international terrorists and their organisations;

9. *Calls on* the Taliban once and for all to end all illicit trafficking of drugs in the areas under their control and to impose a genuine and permanent ban on the cultivation of opium poppies, the proceeds of which finance Taliban activities;

10. *Urges* the Taliban to guarantee safe and unrestricted access for aid agency workers and humanitarian supplies to all those in need of assistance in the areas under their control without discrimination or conditions;

11. *Calls on* the United Nations Security Council to condemn energetically the actions of the Taliban in Afghanistan and to appeal to UN Member States to take appropriate measures with a view to ending violations of the fundamental principles of international law and human rights in Afghanistan.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE AS ESSENTIAL FACTORS IN PROMOTING THE PARTICIPATION OF MEN AND WOMEN IN POLITICAL LIFE AND AS PREREQUISITES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLES

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 105th Conference
(Havana, 6 April 2001)

The 105th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Mindful that more than fifty years have passed since every person's right to education and to participate in the cultural life of the community was set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which also asserts that elementary education shall be compulsory and that technical and professional education shall be made generally available,

Calling attention to the right to development established in the Declaration on the Right to Development, and reaffirmed at the World Conference on Human Rights held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993,

Referring to the report entitled "Our Creative Diversity" by the World Commission on Culture and Development, the report "Learning: The Treasure Within" prepared for UNESCO by the International Commission on Education for the Twenty-first Century, the World Education Forum's Dakar Framework for Action "Education For All: Meeting Our Collective Commitments", and the conclusions of the Stockholm Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development,

Aware of the many close links between education, culture, democracy and development, and *stressing* that education and culture are the basis for both democratic participation and economic and social progress,

Reaffirming its attachment to the promotion and consolidation of democracy, and *acknowledging* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing, and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the peoples to choose their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of life,

Noting that environmental issues affect both developed and developing nations and place the survival of humankind at risk,

Aware of education's potential as an engine for progress in all dimensions of development – political, economic, social, cultural and ecological, and *also aware* that stagnant education systems and undervalued cultural traditions are a threat to democracy,

Stressing that the major obstacles encountered by women which are difficult to overcome by legislation are tradition and a mode of education that impose a distinction between men and women, deny women an education so condemning them to illiteracy, and maintain them in ignorance of their political rights; as well as economic obstacles, which deprive women of their right to education,

Mindful that education is both an important prerequisite for participation in cultural life and for democratic participation, and essential to the acceptance and development of democratic values in a process which must involve every person,

Aware that only strong cultural roots enable individuals and societies to develop critical awareness, shape the present and the future and meet the challenges they pose advisedly, and that protecting and preserving cultural heritage is therefore an important political task; *also aware* that cultures are in constant evolution, and *believing* that new trends, particularly globalisation, while linking cultures ever more closely and enriching interaction, may also pose a challenge to our creative diversity and to cultural pluralism, making mutual respect all the more imperative,

Recognising that education and cultural policies must take account of universal human rights while preserving cultural diversity, and should therefore promote and respect regional, national and universal values,

Also recognising that sustainable economic and social development requires broad democratic participation, which means taking into account the characteristics of the various cultures,

Further recognising that civil society is playing an increasingly significant role, especially in culture, and that one of the most important tasks of cultural policy is to afford creative energies the scope they need in order to develop,

Aware that modern information and communication technologies can facilitate and improve access to education and participation in the democratic process,

Fearing nonetheless that the gap between those who have access to education and culture and those who do not may continue to widen, education being a prerequisite for participation in the information society,

Recognising that globalisation implies not only enormous challenges for humanity but also opportunities, thanks in particular to the fantastic expansion of information and communications technologies which facilitates wider dissemination of universal human values, *concerned* nonetheless at the widening "knowledge gap" - the disparity in the capability of countries or groups within countries to participate in the gains of technological innovations and new means of communication - and at the fact that unequal access to both new and traditional means of cultural expression can seriously affect an individual's or a community's membership in, or exclusion from, the knowledge society,

Affirming that women's rights are an integral part of the social, economic, political and cultural human rights laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and as such may on no account be infringed,

Underscoring that international commitments to the advancement of women and the introduction of appropriate national policies and programmes are matters that lie solely within the purview of States, which have to take account of social, economic and political circumstances, cultural and social values and national traditions,

Deeply concerned that in 2000, according to the World Education Forum, more than 100 million children and young people, especially girls, had no access to primary schooling and 880 million adults were illiterate,

1. *Asserts* that education is a prerequisite for promoting sustainable development, securing a healthy environment, ensuring peace and democracy and achieving the objectives of combating poverty, slowing population growth, and creating equality between the sexes, and that culture is a fundamental component of the development process;

2. *Demands* that women be given the benefits of education, literacy and vocational training programmes, and to this end *suggests* that:

   (a) Girls' schooling must be on a par with that of boys;

   (b) Governments, NGOs and other concerned bodies should organise awareness-building campaigns to encourage families to send their daughters to school;

   (c) Schooling for girls should be subsidised and school supplies provided free of charge in order to overcome any material difficulties;

   (d) Compulsory schooling should be as long for girls as for boys;

   (e) Efforts to combat adult illiteracy should be encouraged by introducing and implementing intensive programmes, with a view to promoting women's participation in political life;

   (f) In order to encourage women's participation in political life and raise awareness of their role in politics, curricula should include straightforward instruction on such matters at all levels;

   (g) Teaching curricula should be rid of all content implying any form of gender-based discrimination;

3. *Stresses* the importance of cultural values and background to the social advancement of women and to a more balanced vision of men's and women's roles in public and private life, and the need to avoid undermining the cultural stability of societies or imposing values alien to the national culture. To that end, it would be useful to:

   (a) Foster gender equality and partnership in order to generate a synergy between men and women enabling them to cope equally with the problems of society;

   (b) Instil respect for the household duties that women traditionally perform and acknowledge that these duties should be shared between the sexes so that both may reconcile them with their social, professional and political activities;

   (c) Show examples and models of equality and complementarity between men and women, through education both at home and at school;

   (d) Make judicious use of the media to give a positive image of women's dynamic role in both the family and society; and develop women's skills and abilities by involving the media in programmes to disseminate the values and images established in national and international strategies for the advancement of women;

4. *Emphasises the need* to design education and cultural policies that contribute significantly to sustainable political, social, environmental and economic development, in particular by improving access to education and culture;

5. *Stresses* the importance of viewing education and cultural policies as key components of an independent and sustainable development policy and ensuring that they are implemented properly in coordination with policies in other fields; *urges* both developed and developing nations to reinforce environmental education in school curricula and in the media; *stresses* the important role that the media play in the treatment of issues relating to women and in shaping the dominant culture and values, and *emphasises* the need to instil in society a balanced vision of the role of women and ensure that both men and women enjoy the same cultural and political education;

6. *Underscores the need* to promote knowledge and understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity through education and cultural policies and to develop such diversity in accordance with principles that foster peace, human rights and democracy;

7. *Calls* for the adoption of cultural policies which help to ensure that every person is able to exercise his or her right to participate freely in cultural life, as set forth in Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

8. *Emphasises* the need to place education high among the priorities of national budgets and to promote actively education conducive to the mastery and creative use of science and new information technologies by the younger generations and the training of teachers in science and new technologies;

9. *Strongly emphasises* that the development of education calls for a vast increase in international assistance to education in developing countries, *urges* that the latter be given all possible assistance in their efforts to promote democratic values through education, and *recommends* in particular promoting cooperation among developing countries so that they benefit from knowledge of other cultures and other experiences of development;

10. *Emphasises the importance* of ensuring the financial and social independence of women, since financially independent women are more inclined to participate in political life; and to that end:

    - To take the necessary steps to promote women's access to vocational training and the job market on an equal footing with men;

    - To ensure that women have no difficulty in obtaining bank loans and credits, and to help them to set up small companies;

11. *Calls* for the intensification of political efforts to preserve tangible and intangible cultural heritage, and *advocates* that every culture that respects others be accorded the right to equal acknowledgement of its identity;

12. *Urges* all parliamentarians to familiarise themselves with the conventions relating to women's rights and the resolutions adopted by conferences on women, to publicise them through all local, national and regional bodies, and to take account of them in national legislation and strategies to improve the status of women;

13. *Calls on* parliaments, governments and NGOs to step up their efforts to involve women actively in political and economic life, to alert developing countries to this issue and to make them aware of the need to eliminate prejudice against women;

14. *Implores* all parliaments, governments, international agencies and NGOs to acknowledge the social, political and economic impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic on men, women, and children, and to actively implement and/or accelerate educational programmes to curb the spread of the pandemic and to encourage people to retain HIV negative status;

15. *Calls* for greater involvement of civil society in education and cultural policy;

16. *Expresses its conviction* that all States must promote, at every stage of education, an active civic learning process enabling all to become acquainted with their history and cultural roots, the functioning and activities of local, national and international political institutions, to become familiar with the procedures for settling fundamental issues and to participate in the cultural life of the community and in public affairs, focusing in particular on gender equality, and *stresses* that such participation should as far as possible result in ever closer ties between education and action to resolve local, national and international problems;

17. *Underscores* the importance of utilising modern information and communication media to facilitate access to education and culture while respecting the rights to freedom of opinion and freedom of information set forth in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

18. *Stresses* the need to encourage the active participation of civil society in the media in order to draw attention to the issues addressed by this resolution;

19. *Emphasises* the necessity of developing the technical infrastructure of modern information and communication systems in such a way that they can be used by as many people as possible, and of promoting new media skills through education and training programmes; *calls* for wide-ranging efforts by developed countries to bridge the digital divide by actively providing developing countries with both technical assistance and support for education in information technologies, and *urges* States to monitor Internet sites and ban access to unacceptable ones, particularly child pornography;

20. *Invites* States and other players to work actively to close the gender gap and to make education for women and girls the top priority of education policy; *urges* States to adopt cultural policies that respect gender equality and fully recognise women's equality of rights and freedom of expression, thereby ensuring their ability to participate fully in all aspects of cultural, economic, social and political life; and *calls* for the involvement of women in the preparation and implementation of general development policies, in which they are both actors and beneficiaries;

21. *Stresses* the need to implement the education policy commitments adopted by the World Education Forum in its Dakar Framework for Action "Education For All: Meeting Our Collective Commitments" and the "World Declaration on Education for All" as swiftly and effectively as possible, in particular by:

    - Ensuring that by 2015 all children, especially girls, children in difficult circumstances and children from ethnic minorities, have access to free, high-quality compulsory primary education and complete such education;

- Achieving a 50 per cent improvement in adult literacy levels by 2015;

- Eliminating gender disparities in primary and secondary education by 2005, and achieving gender equality in education by 2015;

- Backing UNESCO in its task of mobilising and orchestrating support for countries in their efforts to fulfil the Education for All (EFA) commitments at national, regional and international level;

22. *Calls* for regional and international cooperation in the field of education and cultural policy, in order to respond to the challenges of globalisation and technological progress;

23. *Calls* on the members of the IPU to report on the implementation of and follow-up to this resolution through the reporting mechanism established within the IPU.

CONTRIBUTION OF THE WORLD'S PARLIAMENTS TO THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM, IN CONFORMITY WITH RESOLUTION 55/158 OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 105th Conference
(Havana, 6 April 2001)

The 105th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Guided by the purposes and principles set forth in the United Nations Charter (first preambular paragraph of UN General Assembly resolution 55/158),

Aware that the Inter-Parliamentary Union shares the principles and objectives of the Charter and that its activities complement and support the work of the United Nations (third preambular paragraph of the Cooperation Agreement between the UN and the IPU),

Deeply disturbed by the persistence of terrorist acts and their intensification worldwide (seventh preambular paragraph of UN General Assembly resolution 55/158),

Mindful of the importance of resolution 55/158 (Measures to eliminate international terrorism) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly,

Stressing the need to strengthen further international cooperation between States and between international organisations and agencies, regional organisations and arrangements and the United Nations in order to prevent, combat and eliminate terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whoever committed, in accordance with the principles of the Charter, international law and relevant international conventions (eighth preambular paragraph of resolution 55/158),

Convinced that all parliaments can make a major contribution to combating international terrorism in accordance with the above-mentioned resolution,

Stressing the importance of taking appropriate steps to deny safe haven to those who finance or commit acts of terrorism by ensuring their apprehension and prosecution or extradition (nineteenth preambular paragraph of resolution 2000/30 of the Commission on Human Rights),

1. *Strongly condemns* all acts, methods and practices of terrorism as criminal and unjustifiable regardless of their motivation, wherever and by whomever committed (operative paragraph 1 of resolution 55/158 and operative paragraph 1 of resolution 2000/30 of the Commission on Human Rights);

2. *Reiterates* that criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstances unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature that may be invoked to justify them (operative paragraph 2 of resolution 55/158);

3. *Urges* all States and governments to renounce and outlaw the financing, encouragement, provision of training or support for terrorist activities, as well as the conduct on their territory of terrorist activities against other States, individuals or groups of individuals;

4. *Also urges* all parliaments in the world to promote the adoption of further measures in accordance with the United Nations Charter and the relevant provisions of international law, including international standards of human rights and the principle of self-determination, to prevent terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation in combating terrorism (operative paragraph 3 of resolution 55/158);

5. *Reaffirms* the determination of all parliaments to help strengthen international cooperation in this field in order to promote, both nationally and internationally, the adoption and application of effective measures to combat international terrorism and to repress it by prosecuting and punishing the perpetrators.

SECURING OBSERVANCE OF THE PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL LAW IN THE INTERESTS OF WORLD PEACE AND SECURITY

Resolution adopted by consensus by the 105th Conference (Havana, 6 April 2001)

The 105th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Affirming the validity of the principles of international law and the duty of all States, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security, and justice, are not endangered; and to refrain in their international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State,

Recalling that the signatory States of the United Nations Charter are bound to respect the principles of non-intervention, self-determination, and the protection of human rights,

Reaffirming that the General Assembly is the most representative organ of the United Nations and that the United Nations Security Council has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Acknowledging that, as part of their crucial role and responsibility, in ensuring the peace, order and good governance of the peoples and territories they represent, national parliaments have a duty to incorporate in domestic law international obligations and commitments assumed in respect of peace and disarmament, humanitarian law and human rights law,

Recognising that the Inter-Parliamentary Union, as the world organisation of parliaments, plays an important role in promoting peace and international cooperation in furtherance of and in conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations (Article 1, UN-IPU Cooperation Agreement),

Reaffirming the importance of the observance and implementation of the norms and principles of international humanitarian law,

Recognising that any attempt to use international law, including international humanitarian law, as a lever for the advancement of politically motivated objectives seriously obstructs efforts to secure greater respect for the purposes and principles of international law,

Considering that the existence and development of nations depend to a large extent on respect for the international law that governs relations between them and on growing awareness that any breaches of it are likely to threaten them and even jeopardise their existence,

Considering that since the diversity of its sources has made international law difficult to apply in some cases, efforts to promote its codification need to be pursued,

Welcoming efforts by the United Nations to develop and update the rules of international law to respond to new circumstances, and *commending* the work of the International Law Commission, which has successfully prepared drafts of international instruments covering various fields,

Deeming it essential to respond effectively to new types of threats, in particular by taking steps to combat organised crime, narcotics production and trafficking, money laundering and terrorism,

Welcoming the development of other norms of international law designed to minimise threats to international peace and security, through the prohibition and restriction of the use of weapons of mass destruction and certain conventional weapons, the elaboration of the laws of armed conflict, the protection of fundamental human rights and the status of refugees, and the coordination of technical and development assistance,

Welcoming and *fully supporting* United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), entitled "Women and peace and security", and *bearing in mind* the specific recommendations on women and war made in the Beijing Platform for Action, and the outcome document of the "Beijing+5" Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly,

Welcoming especially progress toward the establishment of the International Criminal Court, which will play a crucial role in securing observance of the principles of international law in the interests of world peace and security by providing a forum to investigate and prosecute, in cases where no State is genuinely able or willing to do so, the commission of the worst crimes of international concern, namely the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes,

Underscoring the importance of the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes, and the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly at its 44th session proclaiming the period from 1990 to 1999 as the "United Nations Decade for International Law",

Mindful of the resolution adopted by the 90th Inter-Parliamentary Conference (September 1993) concerning "Respect for international humanitarian law and support to humanitarian action in armed conflicts", and of the resolution adopted by the 91st Inter-Parliamentary Conference (March 1994) on "Prevention of conflicts, maintenance and consolidation of peace: Role and means of the United Nations and regional organisations", and the resolution adopted by the 104th Conference (October 2000) regarding economic sanctions, especially operative paragraph 10 urging States to envisage the elaboration of an instrument of international law codifying the humanitarian standards to be respected when economic sanctions are introduced,

Supporting recent efforts to improve protection for the rights of women and children in times of conflict and times of peace alike, in particular through recent conventions and protocols,

Urges States to respect the principles of international law by refraining from interfering in the domestic affairs of other States, in conformity with the United Nations Charter;

2. *Condemns* the use of coercive measures which would deny the peoples their right to self-determination, freedom and independence and *further condemns* the resort to the use of force in contravention of the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Calls on* States to refrain from applying coercive unilateral measures with extra-territorial effects which hamper the flow of international trade and impair the legitimate right of peoples to economic, financial and trade development;

4. *Also calls on* all States to strive to settle their differences by peaceful means in conformity with the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and the Manila Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of International Disputes and *reaffirms* in this context the right freely to choose among those means;

5. *Stresses* that States must strive to reduce differences between their political, economic and social systems and must cooperate with each other on all levels with a view to maintaining international peace and security, promoting worldwide stability and economic progress, and ensuring the prosperity of all peoples and all nations, without imposing any conditions;

6. *Urges* all States to consider, if they have not yet done so, acceding to and/or ratifying international instruments, as appropriate, in particular the Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions, the Rome Statute establishing the International Criminal Court and *recalls* that, in establishing the crimes falling within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court, the latter's Statute defines rape, sexual slavery, enforced prostitution, forced pregnancy, enforced sterilization, or any other form of sexual violence both as war crimes and, when committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack directed against any civilian population, as crimes against humanity.

7. *Calls* for a complete ban on all weapons of mass destruction and on the transportation of the components of weapons of mass destruction through the air space and/or the exclusive economic zones of other countries and *further calls* for ratification of the Convention on the Total Prohibition of Anti-personnel Mines, and for application of the standards thus subscribed;

8. *Welcomes* the endeavours of the United Nations in framing international instruments, particularly those of the International Law Commission, and *recommends* that such efforts be continued, taking the following into account:

   - The need to prepare the ground before proceeding with codification, not only by studying bills but also by bringing States closer together on points where their views diverge or their interests clash;

   - The purpose of codification is not merely to maintain existing rules indefinitely, but to revise them progressively, introducing any amendments needed to harmonise them with developments in international life;

   - Systems of codification must include an amendment procedure whereby a qualified majority shall suffice to take decisions that are binding on all States that have approved those systems;

9. *Urges* States and the United Nations to secure greater participation by women in decision-making relating to the prevention, management and peaceful settlement of conflicts, and to that end *fully supports* UN Security Council resolution 1325, particularly paragraphs 3 and 4, which seek to strengthen the role of women in this field;

10. *Further urges* all parliaments to ratify and implement the United Nations conventions that concern women and more particularly the Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons especially Women and Children;

11. *Urges* governments and parliaments to raise awareness among their military personnel, law enforcement agents and civilian personnel of war crimes of a sexual nature and the sanctions that apply to them.